



Ashfall #18 - Aug/Sept 1987

### VOLCANOLOGY DIVISION ITALIAN FIELD TRIP

The Volcanology Division is planning a two-week field trip to the classic volcanic localities of southern Italy and Sicily for the spring of 1988. Leaders for the excursion are not yet known, but it is expected that they will include Italian geologists who have worked in the Naples area, at Etna, and in the Aeolian Islands. The planned itinerary includes:

- a day at Pozzuoli visiting Solfatara and the Phlegrean Fields
- a day on Mount Vesuvius
- a day at Herculaneum and Pompeii
- a day visiting Aci Castello and Palagonia
- a day and a half on Mount Etna
- a day touring Vulcano
- a day touring Lipari
- a day and a half on Stromboli
- half a day in Rome

The itinerary involves 13 days in Italy. Those participants wishing to do so can extend their stay at their own expense. The formal field trip starts and ends in Rome. It is expected that separate and more culturally oriented itinerary will be provided for accompanying members if there are enough of them.

Subject to inflation, the expected maximum cost, which will cover all transportation in Italy, taxes, tips, entrance fees (e.g. to Pompeii), double room occupancy, continental breakfasts, and dinners for 3 nights, is **\$2120 CDN**. This would be for a group of less than 20 people. A larger group could result in substantially lower costs. The Apex fare for Toronto-Rome return is currently \$850-900, excluding airport taxes. Providing that the participants travel one way as a group, this fare could be discounted slightly.

There are two suggested schedules for the field trip:

- leaving Toronto on Sunday, April 24 with return from Rome (optional) on Sunday, May 8, or,
- leaving St. John's (or Toronto) on Thursday, May 26 with return from Rome (optional) on Thursday, June 9. If this option is followed, ticketing of the participants could be arranged to make St. John's a stopover between the point of origin and Rome.

The second option would make this field trip, subject to approval of the GAC and MAC executives, one of the Post-Conference Field Trips for St. John's '88.

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Whether or not the field trip takes place will depend on the level of interest. Because some of the places included in the itinerary have limited hotel capacities, reservations will have to be confirmed by an early date and secured by a deposit. Thus, **IT IS ESSENTIAL** that the organizers know of participants' interests by mid-September. Those interested should complete the following questionnaire and send it, or telephone, or both, **L.C. Coleman, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon S7N 0W0** Phone: (0) (306) 966-5740.

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I will definitely\_\_\_\_, probably,\_\_\_\_, possibly,\_\_\_\_ subscribe to the Italian Volcanological Field Trip if it leaves Canada on April 24\_\_\_\_, on May 26\_\_\_\_, on either day\_\_\_\_. I will be alone\_\_\_\_, accompanied by (please give number)\_\_\_\_ persons.

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### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The GAC/MAC Annual Meeting is over, another year has past all too quickly, and it is time to summarize the activities of the past year, and take a look at some of the plans for the coming year.

This year, I think, we have accomplished just about everything we had hoped to do.

#### 1986 Leopold Gélinas Award

Again, we received a number of excellent theses for consideration for the Leopold Gélinas award and I would like to thank the councillors for their diligent efforts in soliciting nominations. The winner this year was **Dr. Graham T. Nixon** from UBC who wrote an outstanding Ph.D. dissertation entitled "**Contributions to the Geology and Petrology of the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt.**" It is a first rate study of Quaternary volcanism in central Mexico, incorporating geological mapping, petrography, mineralogy, K/Ar dating and geochemistry, contributing significantly to the understanding of the origin and evolution of volcanic rocks related to subduction.

The other theses of high quality which made it to the final round of selection include:

Catherine Hickson: Ph.D. thesis, University of British Columbia on the Quaternary Volcanism of the Wells Grey-Clearwater Area, East Central British Columbia

Michael Brearly: Ph.D. thesis, University of Alberta on Ultramafic Xenoliths from British Columbia: Petrological and Dissolution Studies

Ingrid Reichenbach: M.Sc. thesis, Carleton University on An Ensialic Marginal Basin in Wopmay Orogen, Northwestern Canadian Shield

Lise Pelletier: M.Sc. thesis, Laval University on Petrology of Siluro-Devonian Volcanic Rocks from Dalhousie, New Brunswick

## **1987 Leopold Gélinas Award**

Now that a new academic year has begun, it is time to start soliciting nominations for the 1987 Leopold Gélinas Award for the best thesis in Volcanology. To refresh your memory, the rules are as follows:

1. The nomination can be either a M.Sc. or Ph.D. thesis and must be defended (i.e. accepted by the thesis committee and university after defence, but in some circumstances, before university convocation) before the beginning of 1988.
2. The thesis must be written by a Canadian, or if a non-Canadian, be done at a Canadian university.
3. At least 50% of the thesis must be on volcanology or a volcanology-related topic.

Nominations will be evaluated on the criteria of originality, validity of concepts, organization and presentation of data, understanding of volcanology, and depth of research.

The universities to be contacted for nominations have been divided among the councillors and executive members: Contact J. Dostal, Chairman, Volcanology Division for further details.

## **Field Trips**

As you know, we did not directly sponsor a field trip this year, but plans are underway for next year's trip to Italy. This trip should be extremely interesting and I hope that the response will be good. Some field trips are being led by Volcanology Division members during the IUGG General Assembly in Vancouver and we look forward to seeing reports on some of these trips in future issues of Ashfall.

## **Special Sessions**

There were 12 papers presented at the special session on "Trace Elements and Volcanic Processes" during the Saskatoon GAC/MAC Annual Meeting and we were very pleased to have such a good response.

Plans for another special session to be held during the GAC/MAC/CSPG Joint Annual Meeting in St. John's are underway. The title of the session is "Volcanic Regimes in Past and Present Oceanic Environments". The session will examine the nature and origin of volcanic rock assemblages from various tectonic settings and discuss their diagnostic features (petrology, geochemistry, structure, and associated sedimentation). Topics include modern and ancient environments such as ocean ridges, transform faults and subduction zones with their fore-arc and back-arc basins. We are now actively soliciting papers for the session and I hope everyone will pass the word around to those who might be interested in participating in this session.

## **Publications**

Ray Goldie did his usual excellent job of preparing a compilation of the past year's volcanology research in Canada for the Canadian Geophysical

Bulletin. Twenty-nine reports were submitted from 12 institutions: 2 federal government agencies, 2 provincial government agencies, and 8 universities. Of the 26 studies that concern rocks of a particular age, nine are on Cenozoic rocks, one is on Paleozoic rocks, and sixteen are on Precambrian rocks. Ray is stepping down this year and the job will be taken over by Tark Hamilton. We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to Ray for the hard work he has put in over the past several years to keep the scientific community informed about research in volcanology.

Finally, congratulations are again due to Monica for the fine job she has done on producing Ashfall.

As you know, this coming year is my last as Chairman. I again would like to express my appreciation for the co-operation and help I have received from members of the executive over the past year and I am looking forward to another busy and productive year.

Contributions to Ash Fall should be sent to (the):  
Secretary, Volcanology Division  
Geological Association of Canada  
M. Easton  
c/o Ontario Geological Survey  
77 Grenville Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W4

PLEASE RESPOND TO THE ITALY FIELD TRIP QUESTIONNAIRE

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

## VOLCANOLOGY DIVISION OFFICERS

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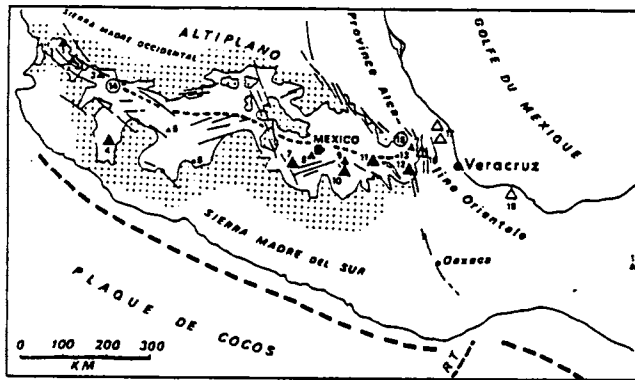


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# TRANS MEXICAN VOLCANIC BELT FIELD GUIDE

by Stephen A. Nelson and Gerardo Sanchez-Rubio



JANUARY 1986

1986, 108p.

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